

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/845,637

Examiner

Prasad R Akkapeddi

Applicant(s)

AMANO, TOMOHIRO

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/23/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17,21,25 and 29.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 02/24/2004 .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Species A in Paper No. 12/29/2003 is acknowledged. (It is to be noted that In the election requirement placed on 12/02/2003, the Examiner has indicated that the claims 17 and 21 read on the Species A and claims 19 and 23 read on species C. In addition, claims 25 and 29 will also be examined if species A was elected. In the response to the office action the Applicant has elected Species A. However, the applicant has indicated that claims 17 and 19 read on this species. Subsequent to the phone call on 02/24/2004, the applicant's representative indicated that there was a typographical error on page 4, line 8 in the response dated 12/23/2003 and indeed claims 17 and 21 read on species A. Hence further examination of the application has proceeded based on the election of species A that reads on claims 17 and 21).

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David A. Tucker on 03/01/2003.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims

Cancel claims 18-20, 22-24, 26-28 and 30-32.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 17, 21, 25 and 29 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

A search of the prior art did not disclose a liquid crystal display device and a method for testing a liquid crystal display device, comprising a combination of structural elements, more specifically:

(a) A plurality of data signal lines each having an open end; the first type of data signal line with a first diode of a first polarity located in spaced relation to its open end; a second type of data signal line with a second diode having a second polarity opposite to the first polarity located in spaced relation to its open end and a third type of data signal line comprising only electrical wiring used for data entry.

(b) A short-circuiting bar to be put in contact with the data signal lines at portions spaced from the open ends by a distance smaller than the smaller of the distances that the first and second diodes are spaced from the open ends of the first and second data signal lines respectively.

The prior art of record does not disclose the above recited limitations. In addition, the newly cited prior art by (a) Hioki et al. (Hioki) (U.S. Patent No. 6,088,073) teaches that the diodes 23 and 22 connect to the short circuit bar (8) and the data signal line (5) farther from the open end. In addition, the diode (23)

has one polarity and the diode (22) having an opposite polarity both connect to the data line. Hence Hioki does not teach all the recited limitations, and

(b) Katsumi (U.S. Patent No. 5,608,558) does not teach diodes of opposite polarity connecting to alternating data signal lines. In addition a storage capacitor connects the data and signal lines (Fig. 7).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, see amendment, filed 09/22/2003, with respect to claims 17-32 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of 07/21/2003 has been withdrawn.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prasad R Akkapeddi whose telephone number is 571-272-2285. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM to 5:30PM M-Th.

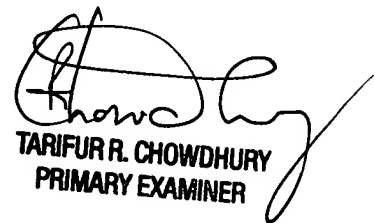
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H Kim can be reached on 571-272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2871

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PRA

Prasad R Akkapeddi, Ph.D
Examiner
Art Unit 2871


TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY
PRIMARY EXAMINER